

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS of NETHER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP – November 30, 2023**

A public meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Nether Providence Township was called to order at 7:30 PM on Thursday, November 30, 2023—Legislative Meeting.

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:**

Commissioner Barnes  
Commissioner Cooper  
Commissioner Garson  
Commissioner McKenzie

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Dave Grady                                  Township Manager  
Robert Scott                                Township Solicitor

**EXCUSED:**

Commissioner Henry  
Commissioner Molloy  
Commissioner O’Connor

6 members of the public were in attendance.

Ms. McKenzie chaired the meeting. She announced that the Executive Session would be held after the public meeting.

Ms. McKenzie announced that the Board would be promoting Maureen Feyas, the current Zoning Officer, to be the Assistant Manager/Zoning Officer. Mr. Grady shared that Ms. Feyas has been a leader within the administration and a major asset to the Township. Ms. McKenzie made a motion to appoint Maureen Feyas as Township Manager/Zoning Officer, and Mr. Garson seconded. The motion carried 4-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Matt Greco of Nether-Swarthmore Baseball – Mr. Greco asked the Board for permission to install a shed at Bullens Lane Park for the storage of baseball equipment. He also asked for permission to install a batting cage at Hepford Park. Nether-Swarthmore Baseball would pay for both projects. There was discussion about the storage container at Hepford Park, and Ms. McKenzie said there was interest in painting a mural on it, although permission from the storage company would be needed. Ms. McKenzie made a motion to approve the installation of the shed at Bullens and the batting cages at Hepford, contingent upon staff review of the locations at the parks. Mr. Cooper seconded, and the motion carried 4-0.

**Parks & Open Space Committee-** Kait McKenzie

Hepford – Dugouts for Keystone Grant – the Township had about \$22,500 in grant funding remaining for usage at Hepford Park. The Township obtained permission from the DCED to add dugouts to the grant scope. The quote for the dugout came in at \$25,744, plus about \$6,000 for the fencing. The Board would need to decide if it is willing to cover the difference, totaling about \$9,500, or share the cost with Nether-Swarthmore Baseball. Mr. Greco said he would discuss with the NSB Board, but he thought it would be possible.

**Approval of Minutes – November 9, 2023** - Ms. McKenzie made a motion to approve the November 9<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes. Mr. Garson seconded the motion which passed 5-0.

**SOLICITORS REPORT** – None

**ENGINEER REPORT-** None

**Government Relations** – Max Cooper

CDBG Public Hearing Scheduled for December 14th - the 2024 Community Development Block Grant will be opening. For the past two years, the Township has obtained funding for road resurfacing in the Garden City Manor, the only area that is eligible for CDBG funding. Charles is preparing a list of the remaining sections of Garden City that need to be repaved. Other options can include improvements to Hepford Park, storm drains, and other streetscape improvements.

**Parks & Open Space Committee-** Kait McKenzie

Sapovits Park Stormwater Work Bids Received – bids were received for this project, and they were significantly higher, almost four times higher than the grant amount of \$277,000. Catania Engineering is reviewing rescoping options. Mr. Grady said this was for a water quality project to go towards meeting the pollutant reduction plan requirements. He said this project would not have significant impact on the downstream flooding to the extreme volume of water flow coming from the Media Borough area.

**Public Safety Committee Report by Matt Garson**

SHMS Exit – Left Turn Ban – he said this ordinance will be adopted on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

Towing Contract – Luongo’s Proposal – Luongo’s Towing has requested an increase in the rates that are charged for towing vehicles, usually related to an accident or disabled vehicle. The rates have not increased since 2016. The rates would not change for Township-owned vehicles. Please review the information, and the Board can discuss the rate change, along with the Township-proposed changes, in December.

**Finance and Administration Committee** - Kait McKenzie

Resolution 2023-19 – Computershare Resolution – Ms. McKenzie made a motion to pass resolution 2023-19 to update the signatories for the Township to be the Board President, Kaitlin McKenzie, and the Township Manager, David Grady. Mr. Garson seconded, and the motion carried 4-0.

Resolution 2023-18 – TD Bank Resolution - Ms. McKenzie made a motion to pass resolution 2023-18 to update the signatories for the Township to be the Board President, Kaitlin McKenzie, and the Township Manager, David Grady. Mr. Garson seconded, and the motion carried 4-0.

Bills List – Ms. McKenzie highlighted several of the expenses on the bills list, including recycling costs, construction costs at the Township Public Works Building, and police accreditation expenses.

AP Interims List – Total - \$979,596.95

A/P Procurement Card - Total – \$52,992.45

A/P Bills List Total – \$35,627.18

Auditor – Reappointment Consideration – Bee Bergvall LLC, the Township’s current auditor, is proposing a rate of \$16,200 for the 2023 audit. Ms. McKenzie said the Township has been happy with their services, and she made a motion to reappoint Bee Bergvall as the auditor. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which carried 4-0.

Creation of Police Pension Committee – Ms. McKenzie noted that the police pension ordinance allows for the creation of a Police Pension Committee. The union has requested that a committee be created, and the Board was agreeable to the idea. It was noted that final investment decisions would still reside with the Board. Solicitor Scott suggested that parameters be set up to determine who would serve on the committee.

2024 Budget Draft – Ms. McKenzie said the first reading of the proposed 2024 budget took place at the last meeting. She said there are still several items to discuss, including the funded organizations.

**Community, Health, and Environment Report** – Shaina Barnes

Cleaning Contract – Township Building/Police Department – we are recommending a switch to City Wide Cleaning Services for the Township Building and Police Department. They charge \$958 a month, which falls in line with our budgeted amount. The former company was charging \$700, but their services were not as robust as the proposed City Wide contract. Ms. Barnes made a motion to approve the City Wide Services agreement, and Mr. Cooper seconded. The motion carried 4-0.

**Infrastructure and Public Works Committee** – Kait McKenzie

Funding for Public Works Garage – she said the Township has begun making payments to the contractors for the project through American Rescue Plan Act Funds, but additional financing will be needed. More information will be available at a future meeting.

Enterprise Fleet Management Proposal – Ms. McKenzie said the Enterprise Fleet Management team presented information at the last meeting, and it appears that the Township could get vehicles in a more timely manner with reduced costs. Ms. McKenzie made a motion to enter into an agreement with Enterprise Fleet Management for 2024. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which carried 4-0.

**Building and Zoning Committee Report** – Kait McKenzie

Media Walk Escrow Release #22 – Ms. McKenzie said the Township Engineer is still reviewing this, and it will be ready at the next meeting.

Solar Panel Ordinance – Ms. McKenzie said ordinance 856 has been advertised. She made a motion to adopt Ordinance 856, amending the zoning ordinance of Nether Providence Township to recognize the need for energy produced by solar power, and to establish rules and regulations for implementation and location of solar power infrastructure. Mr. Garson seconded, and the motion carried 4-0.

**TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT** – David Grady

Mr. Grady said that December 11<sup>th</sup> would be the last week of leaf collection. said the next yard waste dropoff at the Public Works Garage would be on December 7<sup>th</sup>. He reminded everyone to keep sticks and leaves separate. He said VisionZero Safety Ambassadors are still needed for the County. He said the Leiper House is open for the holidays. He noted a SEPTA Route 101-102 detour. There will be a Blood Drive at the Garden City Fire Company on December 26<sup>th</sup>. He thanked Anne Marie Cooke for her time spent reviewing the 100+ applications for the administrative assistant position, as she will be retiring in the spring of 2024. He thanked Ryan Smith and Jim Boyer for their efforts in figuring out the playground installation at Martha Burton Park. He congratulated Officer Worrell on being selected to the County's Emergency Response Team, which involved a significant skill and agility test.

Ms. McKenzie said the next meeting is on December 7, 2023. The meeting was adjourned around 8:30 PM.